

**CLAIMS**

1. A cable splice closure comprising a casing and at least one resilient end plug for closing a respective entry/exit port of the casing, the casing being capable of being closed around the  
5 said plug to close the closure, the said end plug having at least one opening through which a length of cable or other elongate member is capable of being fed into the interior of the closure, and at least one retention means for retaining the said cable or other elongate member with respect to the plug, the plug being compressed, in use, by closure of the casing such that the said cable or elongate member is held with respect to the plug by compression forces applied to the  
10 plug by the said casing.
2. A closure as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the said cable retention means is capable of being wrapped around the exterior of the plug to surround the plug and the said cable so that tightening of the retention means draws the said cable and plug together and compresses the  
15 plug against the cable.
3. A closure as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the retention means comprises a cable tie or wrap tie.
- 20 4. A closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the plug is generally cylindrical.
5. A closure as claimed in Claim 5 wherein the said cylinder has a generally circular cross-section.  
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6. A closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the said opening extends in the longitudinal direction of the plug to provide at least one open channel on the exterior of the plug for receiving the said cable or other elongate member.
- 30 7. A closure as claimed in Claim 6 wherein the plug comprises a plurality of channels circumferentially spaced about the exterior of the plug.

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8. A closure as claimed in Claim 7 wherein different channels are sized to accommodate different size cables.

9. A closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the plug comprises at least one circumferential cable retention groove for receiving a length or lengths of cable deflected radially inwards into the said groove, in use, by tightening of a respective cable retention means surrounding the exterior of the plug and the said cable in the region of the said groove.

10. A closure as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the said groove has a depth in the radial direction greater than the radial depth of the said opening.

11. A closure as claimed in Claim 9 or 10 wherein the depth of the said groove in the radial direction is sufficient to accommodate the said deflected cable and the said cable retention means acting on the said cable around the said groove.

12. A closure as claimed in any of Claims 9 to 11 comprising at least two said circumferential grooves axially spaced along the length of the plug, each groove being provided for accommodating a respective retention means.

13. A closure as claimed in Claim 12 comprising a pair of said circumferential grooves positioned at opposite axial ends of the said plug.

14. A closure as claimed in any of Claims 9 to 13 further comprising at least one further circumferential groove having a compressible seal located therein for compression of the seal against the plug and the said cable to hold the seal against the plug and the said cable so as to seal the closure and further retain the said cable with respect to the closure by force(s) applied by the casing to the seal and the plug when the casing is closed.

15. A closure as claimed in Claim 14 wherein the said further groove is axially located between first and second cable retention grooves.

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16. A closure as claimed in Claim 14 or Claim 15 wherein the said further groove has a depth in the radial direction greater than the radial depth of the said cable retention grooves.

5 17. A closure as claimed in any of Claims 14 to 16 wherein the seal comprises a gel type material.

18. A closure as claimed in Claim 17 wherein the gel is encapsulated in a resilient outer envelope.

10 19. A closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the plug comprises an elastomeric material.

15 20. A cable splice closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the casing comprises at least one open end for feeding the said cable into the interior of the closure, and at least one of the said plugs is positioned at the or each open end for closing that end of the closure.

21. A closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the casing comprises at least two casing parts which are capable of being brought together to close the closure.

20 22. A closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the casing comprises a pair of half shells which are capable of being brought together along respective opposing edges thereof to close the closure.

25 23. A closure as claimed in any of any preceding claim wherein the casing is a butt type casing in which only one end of the casing is arranged to receive cable(s) into the interior of the closure.

30 24. A closure as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the said casing is provided with fastening means for holding the casing in a closed configuration thereby retaining the said plug with respect to the casing substantially in the interior of the closure.

25. A cable splice closure comprising a casing and at least one resilient end plug for closing

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a respective entry/exit port of the casing, the casing being capable of being closed around the said plug to close the closure, the said end plug having at least one opening through which a length of cable or other elongate member is capable of being fed into the interior of the closure, the plug being compressed, in use, by closure of the casing such that the said cable or elongate member is held with respect to the plug by compression forces applied to the plug by the said casing.

26. A kit of parts for providing a cable splice closure according to any preceding claim.

27. A method of installing a cable splice comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a cable splice closure having a casing and at least one resilient end plug for closing a respective end of the casing, the casing being capable of being closed around the said plug to close the closure, the said end plug having at least one opening for receiving a length of cable or other elongate member to be fed into the interior of the closure, and at least one retention means for retaining the said cable or other elongate member with respect to the plug;
- b) positioning one or more lengths of cable to be fed into the interior of the closure in one or more of the said respective openings;
- c) positioning at least one cable retention means around the exterior of the plug to surround the plug and the cable(s);
- d) tightening the cable retention means against the plug and the cable(s) to compress the plug against the cable(s) and retain the cable(s) with respect to the plug;
- e) closing the casing around the plug to further compress the plug such that the said cable or elongate member is additionally held by compression forces applied to the plug by the said casing.

28. A cable splice closure substantially as hereinbefore described and/or as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

29. A kit of parts for a cable splice closure substantially as hereinbefore described and/or as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

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30. A method of installing a cable splice substantially as hereinbefore described and/or as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

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